

**Chambers of Bankruptcy Judge Thomas J. Tucker**

211 West Fort Street, Detroit, MI 48226  
Tel: (313) 234-0030  
E-mail: thomas\_tucker@mieb.uscourts.gov

**Thomas J. Tucker**  
Bankruptcy Judge

Began Service: March 21, 2003

**Staff**

Career Law Clerk **Lisa Barnett** ..... (313) 234-0030  
E-mail: lisa\_harris@mieb.uscourts.gov  
Courtroom Deputy **Mary Vozniak** ..... (313) 234-0033  
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Judicial Assistant **Sherie Hitch** ..... (313) 234-0030

**Chambers of Bankruptcy Judge Daniel S. Opperman**

111 First Street, Bay City, MI 48708  
226 West Second Street, Flint, MI 48502-1203  
Tel: (989) 894-8850  
E-mail: daniel\_opperman@mieb.uscourts.gov

**Daniel S. Opperman**  
Bankruptcy Judge

Began Service: July 2006  
Term Expires: July 2020

**Legal Practice:** Attorney, Braun Kendrick Finkbeiner P.L.C.

**Staff**

Courtroom Deputy **Wendy Erickson** ..... (989) 894-8844  
E-mail: wendy\_erickson@mieb.uscourts.gov  
Courtroom Deputy **Jill McFarland** ..... (810) 235-2039  
Judicial Assistant **Suzanne Hert** ..... (989) 894-8850

**Chambers of Bankruptcy Judge (recalled) Walter Shapero**

Theodore Levin Courthouse, 231 West Lafayette Boulevard,  
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Tel: (313) 234-2640 Fax: (313) 234-2614  
E-mail: walter\_shapero@mieb.uscourts.gov

**Walter Shapero**

Bankruptcy Judge (recalled)

Date of Birth: 1930  
Education: Michigan 1951 AB; Virginia 1954 LLB  
Began Service: July 15, 2002

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk, Michigan Supreme Court (1954-1956)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; American Judicature Society; Detroit Bar Association; National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges; State Bar of Michigan

**Staff**

Law Clerk (Vacant) ..... (313) 234-2642  
Judicial Assistant **Marsha Heinonen** ..... (313) 234-2640

**United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan**

399 Federal Building, 110 Michigan Street, NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
Tel: (616) 456-2381 Tel: (616) 732-2765 (PACER)  
Tel: (800) 547-6398 (Toll Free PACER) Fax: (616) 456-2066  
Internet: www.miwd.uscourts.gov

**Number of Judgeships:** 5

**Areas Covered:** Counties of Alger, Allegan, Antrim, Baraga, Barry, Benzie, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Charlevoix, Chippewa, Clinton, Delta, Dickinson, Eaton, Emmet, Gogebic, Grand Traverse, Hillsdale, Houghton, Ingham, Ionia, Iron, Kalamazoo, Kalkaska, Kent, Keweenaw, Lake, Leelanau, Luce, Mackinac, Manistee, Marquette, Mason, Mecosta, Menominee, Missaukee, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ontonagon, Osceola, Ottawa, Schoolcraft, St. Joseph, Van Buren and Wexford

**Court Staff**

Clerk of the Court **Tracey Cordes** ..... (616) 456-2381  
E-mail: tracey\_cordes@miwd.uscourts.gov  
Operations Supervisor **Michelle Benham** ..... (616) 456-2381  
Resident Deputy-in-Charge - Kalamazoo  
**Dewinda Webb** ..... (269) 337-5706  
Federal Bldg., 410 W. Michigan Ave., Fax: (269) 337-5703  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007  
Resident Deputy-in-Charge - Lansing **Linda Dack** ..... (517) 377-1559  
Federal Bldg., 315 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI 48933 Fax: (517) 377-1576  
Resident Deputy-in-Charge - Marquette **Carole Poggi** ..... (906) 226-2021  
229 Federal Bldg., 202 W. Washington St., Fax: (906) 226-6735  
Marquette, MI 49855  
Chief Probation Officer **Valerie Martin** ..... (616) 456-2384  
Fax: (616) 456-2223

**Chambers of Chief Judge Paul Lewis Maloney**

137 Federal Building, 410 West Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49007  
Tel: (269) 381-4741 Fax: (269) 337-4736  
E-mail: paul\_maloney@miwd.uscourts.gov

**Paul Lewis Maloney**  
Chief Judge

Date of Birth: 1949  
Education: Lehigh 1972 BA; Detroit 1975 JD  
Began Service: July 18, 2007  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Government:** Assistant Prosecutor, Prosecutor's Office, County of Berrien, Michigan (1975-1989); Prosecuting Attorney, Prosecutor's Office, County of Berrien, Michigan (1981-1989); Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, United States Department of Justice (1989-1993); Special Assistant to the Director, Department of Corrections, State of Michigan (1993-1995); District Judge, Trial Court, County of Berrien, Michigan (1995-1996)

**Judicial:** Circuit Judge, Trial Court, County of Berrien, Michigan (1996-2007)

**Staff**

Law Clerk **John M. Brendel** ..... (269) 381-4741  
Began Service: August 2007  
Term Expires: August 2011  
Education: Chicago 1992 BA;  
Pennsylvania 1995 JD  
Law Clerk **Rod Phares** ..... (269) 381-4741  
Began Service: August 2007  
Term Expires: August 2011  
Judicial Assistant **Alice Baker** ..... (269) 381-4741

**Chambers of District Judge Robert Holmes Bell**

Federal Building, 110 Michigan Street, NW, Room 602,  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
Tel: (616) 456-2021



**Robert Holmes Bell**  
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1944  
Education: Wheaton (IL) 1966 BA;  
Wayne State 1969 JD  
Began Service: August 6, 1987  
Appointed By: President Ronald Reagan

**Academic:** Adjunct Professor, Thomas M. Cooley Law School

**Government:** Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, State of Michigan (1969-1973)

**Judicial:** Judge, Michigan District Court, 55th Judicial Court (1973-1979); Judge, Michigan Circuit Court, 30th Judicial Circuit (1979-1987)

**Legal Practice:** Private Practice (1970-1972)

**Current Memberships:** American Judicature Society; Christian Legal Society; District Judges Association of the Sixth Circuit; Western District of Michigan, Federal Bar Association; The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies; State Bar of Michigan

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Adam Benetiz** ..... (616) 456-2021  
Began Service: September 2010  
Term Expires: September 2011  
E-mail: adam\_benetiz@miwd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Vanderbilt 2010 JD  
Career Law Clerk **Julie VanWyk Clough** ..... (616) 456-2021  
E-mail: julie\_clough@miwd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Hope 1977 BS;  
Western New England 1981 JD  
Case Manager **Susan Bourque** ..... (616) 456-2021  
Education: Central Michigan 1981 BS  
Court Reporter **Kevin Gaugier** ..... (616) 456-6133  
Judicial Assistant (Part-Time) **Kimberly C. Briggs** ..... (616) 456-2021

**Chambers of District Judge Gordon J. Quist**

482 Federal Building, 110 Michigan Street, NW,  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2363  
Tel: (616) 456-2253 Fax: (616) 456-2243  
E-mail: gordon\_j\_quist@miwd.uscourts.gov

**Gordon J. Quist**  
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1937  
Education: Michigan State 1959 BA; George Washington 1962 JD  
Began Service: August 28, 1992  
Appointed By: President George H.W. Bush

**Legal Practice:** Hollabaugh & Jacobs (1962-1964); Sonnenschein, Levinson, Carlin, Rosenthal, & Nath (1964-1966); Miller, Johnson, Snell & Cumiskey (1967-1992); Managing Partner, Miller, Johnson, Snell & Cumiskey (1986-1992)

**Current Memberships:** Michigan State Bar Foundation

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Neil Marchand** ..... (616) 456-2253  
Began Service: September 2010  
Term Expires: September 2011  
E-mail: neil\_marchand@miwd.uscourts.gov  
Career Law Clerk **Philip G. Henderson** ..... (616) 456-2253  
E-mail: philip\_henderson@miwd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Toledo 1988 JD  
Judicial Assistant **Jane M. Tepper** ..... (616) 456-2253

**Chambers of District Judge Robert James Jonker**

640 Federal Building, 110 Michigan Street, NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
Tel: (616) 456-2551  
E-mail: robert\_jonker@miwd.uscourts.gov

**Robert James Jonker**  
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1960  
Education: Calvin Col 1982 BA; Michigan 1985 JD  
Began Service: July 18, 2007  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk, District Judge John F. Feikens, United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan (1985-1987)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Warner Norcross & Judd LLP (1987-1993); Partner, Warner Norcross & Judd LLP (1994-2007)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; Federal Bar Association; Grand Rapids Bar Association; State Bar of Michigan

**Staff**

Law Clerk (Vacant) ..... (616) 456-2551  
Term Expires: August 2010  
Career Law Clerk **Margaret Khayat Bratt** ..... (616) 456-2551  
E-mail: margaret\_bratt@miwd.uscourts.gov  
Case Manager **Melva Ludge** ..... (616) 456-2551  
Judicial Assistant **Yvonne Carpenter** ..... (616) 456-2551

**Chambers of District Judge Janet T. Neff**

401 Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse, 110 Michigan Street, NW,  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
Tel: (616) 456-6774 Fax: (616) 456-6947  
E-mail: janet\_neff@miwd.uscourts.gov

**Janet T. Neff**  
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1945  
Education: Wayne State 1970 JD  
Began Service: August 2007  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk, Michigan Court of Appeals (1970-1971)

**Government:** Assistant City Attorney, Office of the City Attorney, City of Grand Rapids, Michigan (1971-1973); Commissioner, Michigan Supreme Court (1978-1980); Assistant United States Attorney, Western District of Michigan, United States Department of Justice (1980)

**Legal Practice:** VanderVeen, Freihofer & Cook (1973-1978); William G. Reamon, PC (1980-1988)

**Current Memberships:** Grand Rapids Bar Association; State Bar of Michigan

**Staff**

Career Law Clerk **Rita Buitendorp** ..... (616) 456-6727  
E-mail: rita\_buitendorp@miwd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Calvin Col 1993 AB;  
Valparaiso 1996 JD  
Career Law Clerk **Kathleen Geiger** ..... (616) 456-6774  
E-mail: kathleen\_geiger@miwd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Thomas M Cooley 1998 JD  
Case Manager **Susan Smith** ..... (616) 456-6774  
Court Reporter **Kathy Anderson** ..... (616) 456-6774  
Judicial Assistant **Christine Bockheim** ..... (616) 456-6774